Beer Parish News February 2022



St Michael's ... and Village

CHURCH DIRECTORY

www.coastalchurch.org.uk

VICAR: Position soon to be filled!

St Gregory's Office <u>seatonchurch@hotmail.co.uk</u> 23656

Ass. Priest: Rev Simon Hitchcock sihitchcock@icloud.com 07575 956899

Ass. Priest: Rev Alison Finch <u>alison.finch@ymail.com</u> 20567

ST MICHAEL'S ...

Churchwarden: Mrs G. Chapple 07794 838219

Treasurer: Mr K. Izzard, Sunningdale, Common Hill, Beer 625181

Secretary: Mrs Jean Smith

Sacristan

& Head Server:

Mrs L. Bees

21723

Altar Guild: Mrs P. Bewick 21954

Mrs Y. Hawker 22191

Choir:Dr G. Butler (Practice Wed 6-7pm)21375Organist:Dr G. Butler, Mullions, New Road, Beer21375

Children's Society: Mrs P. Edmunds, West Ebb, Common Hill, 23659

Beer EX12 3AQ

07412 010245

Families Worker Linda Joy lindajoychildrensworker@gmail.com

Children's Team: Mrs Jean Smith _____07412 010245

Mrs J. Ross

Mrs L. Molony

Worship Team:

Mrs G. Chapple, Ms M. Hirons,

Mrs L. Molony, Mrs L. Bees

Pastoral Team: Mrs G. Chapple (sec) 07794 838219

Mrs Y. Hawker, Mrs S. Aplin, Mrs P. Bewick, Mrs E. Singleton, Mrs A. Vaughan, Mrs S. Anderson

Beer Parish News Dr Henry Jaggers, Green Bank, 9 Clinton Rise, 20858

Editor: Beer. Email: henryjaggers@btinternet.com

Area code for all phone numbers above is 01297 unless shown otherwise

In an emergency, parishioners should contact the Churchwarden (see above for address and phone number).

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www.coastalchurch.org.uk



Calendar for February 2022

www.coastalchurch.org.uk

Tues	1 st Feb	6:00pm 7:30pm	Choir Practice Bell ringing practice	
Fri	4 th	10:00am	Mickey's Music Makers	
Sun	6 th	9:30am	Morning Praise	4th Sunday before Lent
Tues	8 th	6:00pm 7:30pm	Choir Practice Bell ringing	
Wed	9 th	10:00am	Communion Service at	BEER
Thurs	10 th	2:00pm	'Questions of Life & Faith	n' - Colyford Hall
Fri	11 th	10:00am	Mickey's Music Makers	
Sun	13 th	9:30am 4:00pm	Communion Service Café Church @ 4 for Al	3rd Sunday before Lent LL
Tues	15 th	6:00pm 7:30	Choir Practice Bell ringing practice	
Wed	16 th	7.00pm	Compline at SEATON	
Fri	18 th	10:00am	Mickey's Music Makers	
Sun	20 th	9:30am	Morning Praise	2nd Sunday before Lent
Tues	22 nd	6:00pm 7:30pm	Choir Practice Bell Ringing	
Wed	23 rd	10:00am	Communion Service at SEATON	
Sun	27 th	9:30am	Family Communion	Sunday next before Lent
Tues	1 st Mar	ch 6:00pm 7:30pm	Choir Practice Bell Ringing	
Wed	2 nd Mai	rch 10:00am 7:00pm		sition of Ashes BEER sition of Ashes SEATON

NB. Our Sunday services in Beer are often broadcast on Facebook. You can watch and hear them there, either live or later at a time convenient to you!

1st Sunday of Lent

Morning Praise

Sun 6th March 9:30am

Covid restrictions may be relaxing but we still need to Stay Safe - and keep others safe too! We are a small local group who meet regularly in order to grow in the practice of Contemplative Prayer in the Christian tradition. We welcome people of ALL denominations, or none.



The Julian Meetings used to take place on the second Monday of each month, 7.30 for 7.45pm at St Gregory's Church Centre, Colyford Road, Seaton. But of late, in these times of pandemic, we invite you to join us virtually on the second Monday of each month by downloading and following an "order of proceedings" available from the Coastal Church website.

For more information contact: Sue Price, Reader at St Gregory's Seaton on 01297 22314

Epiphany on the Jordan

Beginning here we glimpse the Three-in-one;
The river runs, the clouds are torn apart,
The Father speaks, the Spirit and the Son
Reveal to us the single loving heart
That beats behind the being of all things
And calls and keeps and kindles us to light.
The dove descends, the spirit soars and sings
'You are beloved, you are my delight!'

In that quick light and life, as water spills
And streams around the Man like quickening rain,
The voice that made the universe reveals
The God in Man who makes it new again.
He calls us too, to step into that river
To die and rise and live and love forever.

Malcolm Guite

(This poem was used in the January Julian meeting.)



ALTAR GUILD NEWS

11th January 2022 meeting held by the Altar Guild in St Michael's Church

The Christmas Fair in the church as part of the Festive Fun weekend was a great success and very much enjoyed by all who took part and attended.

We are starting to plan church events and trying to get back to some normality (Covid allowing!) and there will be information and confirmation of dates /times etc as they happen.

Here's looking forward to a better year and doing all things we love to do.

Date of next meeting: 1st February 2022

Questions of Life and Faith

Questions of Life and Faith at 2pm on the second Thursday of the month is attracting a mixed group from our local churches. We meet in Colyford Memorial Hall and the next session will be the 10th Feb. A donation of a £1 or £2 is welcome to meet costs, but not essential. The most important thing is to come with questions that matter to you and open them up to share views and insights. All welcome.

Karen Curnock 07460 244475

Colyford Memorial Hall 10th February, 2pm

CINEMA

Beer Film Society

www.beerfilmsociety.org.uk



Thursday February 17th 2022 at the Mariners` Hall Doors open at 6.45pm. Film starts 7.30pm. Bar available.

"THE COURIER"

(2021) Cert. 12A



A "Cold War," Spy thriller, set during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Tells the true story of British businessman Greville Wynne (played by Benedict Cumberbatch), who is unwittingly recruited into one of the greatest international conflicts in history.

"Nice old fashioned espionage thriller." "The actors are fantastic and the tension is really holding up throughout."

Members £5. Non members £7 Numbers limited - to book tickets email beerfilmsociety@gmail.com

Coming soon: 17 March: King Richard (12)

For further information, please contact BeerFilmSociety@gmail.com



Energy bills advice this winter

Thanks to funding from Western Power Distribution, Devon Communities Together is pleased to be able to provide support to individuals who are struggling with fuel bills and heating their homes this winter.



We understand the huge problems people can face in keeping their homes heated – particularly in rural communities – and want to help keep as many people warm this winter as we can.

FREE ADVICE ON YOUR ENERGY BILLS THIS WINTER FROM DEVON COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

With rising energy bills and intense pressures on household finances this winter, independent charity Devon Communities Together is providing 1-2-1 support to individuals who are struggling with fuel bills and heating their homes, thanks to funding from Western Power Distribution.

The charity can offer home visits, video calls and telephone support, with trained experts giving practical advice on tackling energy issues tailored to each household.

"We know this winter is proving to be very tough for many households in Devon," said Harry Bonnell, Project Manager at Devon Communities Together. "We are here to support those households that are worried about their energy bills so please do book a session and speak to one of our advisors if you would like some help."

The support Devon Communities Together is offering includes:

Practical help dealing with energy suppliers and finding the right tariff
Checking eligibility for schemes such as the Priority Service Register and Warm
Home Discount

Assistance accessing financial support

Help understanding the terminology around domestic energy

Looking at alternative energy sources/suppliers

Improving your energy efficiency

Any other questions

As well as providing personalised help with energy bills, Devon Communities Together will be able to support people with related issues, such as housing and health challenges, by working with other organisations to ensure that people receive the help they need.

How to book

People can book an individual support session by clicking the link below and choosing an available time that suits them. If anyone has any questions or would like to discuss a session outside office hours, please get in touch with Martin

07984 001542 martin@devoncommunities.org.uk.

BOOK A FREE ADVICE SESSION HERE: https://linktr.ee/DCTenergyadvice

Beer Parish Council News - January 2022

Parish Clerk

The current Parish Clerk, Annie Dallaway has been in post for over 10 years but has decided it is time to move on. A new Clerk will hopefully be in post by the end of February and can introduce herself in a forthcoming newsletter. A new schedule of meeting dates will shortly be agreed and published on the noticeboard and website. Note that council meetings are currently held in the Main Hall rather than the Balcony Room to enable social distancing. Members of the public are very welcome to attend the meetings and observe or speak in the public session.

Please check with the Clerk if you need confirmation re meeting dates: Clerk.beerparishcouncil@googlemail.com

Annual precept

The Parish Council has just approved the budget for 2022/23 to include a 5% rise in the precept to provide sufficient allocation for employment costs. The annual precept for 2022/23 will be £25,335 with the individual band D house charge levied at £38.04 per year.

Casual vacancies and co-option

The council welcomes James Green as a new councillor. There are still 3 casual vacancies and these will be co-opted at the February meeting. There has been some confusion regarding the co-option process so a summary is provided below:

When a vacancy arises on a Parish Council due to a Parish Councillor's death, disqualification or resignation, the process to fill the vacancy is as follows:

The Parish Council notifies the Returning Officer at East Devon District Council of the vacancy and a notice is posted to the electorate. This notice runs for 14 days from the date the notice is displayed and gives the electorate the opportunity to call for a by-election. All notices are displayed on the Parish Council noticeboard.

If ten or more electors call for a by-election, then an election is organised by EDDC and further notices are posted informing

interested persons of how to apply to enter as a candidate in the election.

If a by-election is not called, the Parish Council is notified by EDDC to fill the vacancy by co-option as soon as possible.

Applications will be considered at a Parish Council meeting. Candidates are welcome to attend. If there are more candidates than vacancies, the co-option will be decided by a ballot of the members. Councillors shall vote by signed ballot. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chairman of the meeting has a second or casting vote.

EDDC Asset Transfer

The council is still waiting for the EDDC officer approved version of the draft Heads of Terms. Once available, it will be made public (on the Parish Council website) and the Parish Meeting will take place at least two weeks later. The Parish Meeting is open to all of the electorate and will provide a further opportunity to discuss the asset transfer proposals.

Traffic Survey

The Beer Traffic and Road Safety Study (TRSS) is underway and AWP Consultancy has produced a preliminary report. The traffic survey was commissioned by BPC with grant funding in response to requests and feedback from residents and visitors. The scope of the study will include site inspections, personal injury accident data from Devon County Council and an analysis of items raised by residents and visitors. The Environment Portfolio is planning to organise a working group to review initial findings and feedback to council. There will be public consultation and community engagement as the survey progresses.

Community & Tourism Team:

Festive Weekend

Kayleigh Westlake, the Event Coordinator attended the January Parish Council meeting to report on the very successful Festive Weekend held last month ($10^{th} - 12^{th}$ December).

The Festive Weekend Extravaganza kicked off at 3pm with a craft fair in St Michael's Church, followed by late-night shopping throughout the

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BEER ACTION GROUP

Beer Community Hub to be at a regular Coffee Morning each Monday - see page opposite.

Beer Action Group is fundraising for a good cause, perhaps you've seen the poster below in the Chemist's window:-



You can also drop any suitable donations to the Community Hub Coffee Morning on a Monday morning (from 7th February).

If anyone would like to volunteer help for these sessions, just 'Ask Annie' there! The more the merrier!





Seaton Beer and District Branch RNLI

We are delighted to report that during our Tesco Seaton Collection Saturday 18th December our seven Volunteers with RNLI Ted collected £470.37, that included £69 through the card payment machine. The weather was mild and dry and it was lovely to be collecting at Tesco once again.

At the time of writing our report we were preparing for our RNLI SOS Table Top Sale at the Mariners Hall and were hoping for a fine and successful day. We were expecting a variety of stalls and people were looking forward to having Bacon Baps as well. A full report will be in the March Beer Parish News.

As the year progresses, we are looking forward to being with Beer Village Heritage at the Grizzly Race Day Drink Station at Beer Head Caravan Site on Sunday 6th March. Additional



helpers are welcome to come along and we hope that the weather will be mild and dry.

Our Annual General Meeting is programmed to be on Tuesday 15th March. Further details will be available nearer the time. We are aiming to open our Shop at Jubilee Gardens from late March and in time for Easter depending on weather and Volunteer availability.

We thank all our Volunteers and supporters.

Wendy Cummins
Secretary
Seaton Beer and District Branch RNLI

...continued from pg. 9 (Beer Parish Council News)

village, a visit from Father Christmas and gifts, Christmas tree lights switch on with Christmas carols, an extremely well-attended Children's Disco in the festively-decorated Mariners' Hall and hot dogs cooked outside by 1st Beer Scouts.

The Mariners' Hall was open again on Saturday with hot drinks and homemade treats to support the village shops' window activity. The trail quest featured artwork created by Beer C of E pupils' artwork. The Festive Weekend ended on Sunday evening with Carols by Candlelight at the beautifully-decorated Jubilee with Gayle Chapple leading the carol singing.

Kayleigh thanked the village and team of volunteers for all their support and was able to bank £466.09 of donations towards future CTT events. She already has plans in progress for the Platinum Jubilee Weekend.

New Year's Eve Fireworks

Kayleigh also organised this very successful event on Beer beach, ending the year spectacularly for the village. She reported that the display had brought in donations of £1116.59 from in person donations and also from donations from Beer businesses.

Fine Foundation Centre

Beer Village Heritage

Reg. Charity No.1087162

2022 got off to a clean start with over 30 people coming to help with the Beach Clean. It was lovely to welcome "regulars", some of whom we see every year. One

lady visitor joined us, having asked what we were doing. She lives in Worthing and does her own beach clean there. Jayne Aplin asked us to look out for pieces of coloured plastic – amazingly we didn't find any – which could be sent to Sam in Brighton where she is creating an artwork out of rubbish from the beach.

For the first time we sorted the rubbish and separated out everything which could be recycled and put it into the appropriate bins. Very many thanks to Ruth who took on this mucky task. There were few surprises in terms of what was found. As always there was a collection of BMW parts, courtesy of the Napoli. A cache of beer bottles behind one of the beach huts indicated that someone had a bit of a party – what a pity they couldn't manage to carry the bottles home with them! It was disappointing to find a lot of short pieces of plastic netting, along with fishing line and weights as they had obviously been dropped – hopefully accidentally – by fishermen and anglers. Incidentally it was 14 years ago this week that the Napoli arrived on our shores. It has already passed into our collective memory as an important historical event.

One of the first things which I do every year is to look for the first snowdrops. Our neighbour already has a fine display while ours are only just beginning to poke through the soil. For me these little white flowers have particular significance as they were very prolific in the wood where we lived in North Cornwall. My father asked permission of the landowner, and having picked them we bunched them up, packed them into special cardboard boxes and gave them to the postman who took them to the station. They were sold in Covent Garden the next day. I was 3 when we first picked snowdrops and the exercise helped me to learn to count – 26 flowers, 2 ivy leaves and 2 rubber bands! It gave me a link to the plats along the cliffs between Beer and Salcombe Regis, where the produce, particularly early potatoes and spring flowers, found a lucrative market when the railway came to Sidmouth and Seaton. Our little family enterprise only worked because of the link to Paddington. For the record, the earliest date that we had enough flowers to send was January 6th.

The 20th anniversary of the East Devon and Dorset World Heritage Site, commonly known as the Jurassic Coast, is being celebrated in a number of ways. The first of the People's Pebble videos is on their website. You can find it via the following link:

https://jurassiccoast.org/the-jurassic-coast-turns-20/, where you'll see that Beer Village Heritage has contributed to the footage. If you'd like to be involved, please say so! We need help with several of the subjects.

The committee is hoping to be able to work in the Fine Foundation Centre over the next couple of months and re-arrange some of the displays, including the fish tanks – we're waiting for the builder to be available. Although the Centre is closed until Easter you can still see a variety of exhibits in the cabinets facing the beach under the FFC. You can also take part in the "I-Spy" in the area outside, as well as enjoying walks in the locality. You can find all the walks and the "I-Spy" on our website: http://www.beervillageheritage.org.uk/. Ruth is continuing with her "Blow-in" project, asking the question "why did you move to Beer?" You can contact her on: ruthtoohoots@gmail.com.

The next Branscombe Project talk is on February 28th starting at 1930, in the Branoc Hall. Patrick Dillon will be telling us about the Uffington White Horse, and discussing its history and purpose.

Ruth and Wendy are continuing to re-cycle your crisp packets There is a collection point outside of the Fine Foundation centre as well as in the telephone kiosk. Pets at Home are currently running a trial recycling programme for pet food pouches at their shop in Yeovil.

As always, we welcome new members, along with new ideas for activities and discussions as well as for the displays in the Fine Foundation Centre and Bomb Shelter. If you'd like to pay your subscription (currently £3 per year) why not put the money in an envelope and pop it into the box in the Post Office. Please write your name and contact details on the envelope.

If you'd like to know more, just ask one of our regular helpers such as Nick Jones, Mike Green, Chris Jones, Carol Green, Henry or Norah Jaggers, or contact us on 01297 625445, 01297 20858 or at beervillageheritage@yahoo.co.uk

www.beervillageheritage.org.uk

The second of our *NEW SERIES*. "In Conversation With ..."

No. 2, In Conversation ...with Richard Scott

Q: So, here we are sitting in the Anchor Pub on a rainy January day in the village of Beer. You're a familiar face in Beer, many people in this community know you. What's your connection with this village?

Richard: My parents were living here when I was born. I live in the house I was brought up in, in Underleys. I went to Beer Primary, when legendary Tom Ashby was Head. Then I went to Colyton Grammar. After school I studied at Exeter University and read History, French and Spanish.

Q: What happened after University?

Richard: I joined the Royal Air Force on a short-service commission. I was an Air Traffic Controller for 6 years. I left with the rank of Flying Officer. I see contemporaries now, who have retired as Group Captains and Wing Commanders, and I wonder if I should have stayed in the Service and made a career out of it. If I had my time again, I think I would do that. Anyhow, I left at the age of 28 and I went to work for the Ministry of Defence in London.

Just prior to the period in London I was for a short while a receptionist in a Dance Studio in Swindon. Big change! Loved that. So different from anything else I'd done up to then. After London I worked as an Intelligence Analyst for Devon and Cornwall police. Based at the Heavitree Police Station, I managed a team of 14 people spread over all corners of Devon. We worked on the investigation of everything from burglary to drug networks and murder. However, that all came to an end when Austerity and Spending Cuts bit into local finances, and several of us were made redundant.

Q: So, then coming up to date. Sweeping chimneys and photography? Many people will connect you with both these things.

Richard: Yes, sweeping chimneys went on for four years, until an old neck injury meant twisting to look up flues really wasn't possible any more. I took up photography in 2011. It's satisfying to capture scenes and moments, but earning money from your camera is problematic. It's difficult to sell directly to the public, but that is the only way it can pay. You're going to ask me if I ever do weddings, aren't you? The answer is a definite "NO". I did it once. Nothing went wrong, and the couple getting married were very laid back about it all, but I'm not doing it again. It was really stressful.

Q: Let's move onto your involvement with Beer and the First World War. How did that come about?

Richard: I was a Governor at Colyton Grammar for 20 years. Their annual Remembrance Service involved reading the names of the local boys who had been killed in the two World Wars. That gave me the idea of researching the Beer men who served in the First World War. I think a lot of people will have seen one particular photograph -- ranks of lads marching up Beer main street.

Q: Yes. Like so many photos of that time, they look bright and cheerful and excited. They have no idea what they're heading into. How could they? It's poignant.

Richard: That started the project of commemorating everyone from Beer who served in that war, not just those who were killed. We've fixed notices to the houses and cottages where each one lived. We held several exhibitions, and a series of readings at the war memorial. The project has culminated in the memorial avenue of trees planted up on Beer Head car park. The team which worked on that is Katie Meeke, Peter Anderson and myself. It's not quite completed. We still await a 'Grand Opening' of the Avenue. We'll do that, one day.

Q: I'm sure very many people in this village thank you and your team for what you've done to remember Beer lads. It's a great and moving tribute to a generation of boys who never came home to Beer.





BEER WI

Our next Meeting is on February 2nd at 7.30pm Speaker and New Year social

We meet in the Congregational Hall on the first Wednesday of every month at 7.30 pm

Everyone is welcome so why not come and join us?

For information please call: 01297 21864 or 01297 599157





ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BEER BRANCH

Poppy Appeal 2021

2021 Poppy Appeal raised £4,069.22. Despite the Pandemic, restrictions and concerns, the Poppy Appeal was one of the most successful. Our volunteers still braved the weather and sat outside the Congregational Hall and Steam Gallery with their poppy merchandise. Weather was cold, wet and windy, as is usual with the Appeal, but still our volunteers were determined to raise funds for 2021. The Pandemic has hit the Poppy Appeal hard, and it is the welfare of our veterans that ultimately suffer, which is why it is so important we raise funds, especially as we are only allowed two weeks fundraising leading up to Remembrance.

Peter Anderson, the driving force behind the Poppy Appeal, has decided to retire after 9 years of raising more than £30,000. He and his stalwart volunteers have ensured the Appeal in Beer has carried on after the sterling efforts of the Women's Section. We are so grateful to Peter for his organisational skills and hard-work. An appeal does not just happen, it takes months of planning and Peter has been quite exceptional – thank you Peter.

We are fortunate that Peter will remain on our Branch Committee and pass on his expertise and still be involved as a volunteer.

Carole Arnold will take on the Beer Appeal and will try and follow in Peter's footsteps.

A massive 'thank you' must go to our villagers for the support of our Appeal. Without your generosity we would never be able to raise such funds. We ventured out to Moto Services again and this proves incredibly profitable, plus showcasing Beer Branch. Our Scouts and Cubs always support us, as do Beer Primary School. The youth are our future and we will hope to encourage this again next year.

Our Remembrance Service was so well supported and we would like to invite more organisations in Beer to order a wreath and be involved in the Remembrance Service. *We must never forget*.

We have a new logo for the RBL, which is displayed above. The 'Lion' logo is for branch use and the Poppy Logo for the Poppy Appeal and main RBL business.

Beer Best Years and Bizzy Bees clubs both back up and running, alternating on
 Tuesdays 2-4pm.

Beer Best Years Club

Accessible and inclusive activities for those aged 50+

8th February

Tea, Cake, Natter, Occasional Talks, Seated Exercise, and more! We look forward to welcoming you back.

Anyone just come along! You can just sit and chat or you can bring cake and help! This is a community event, for the community, come along and enjoy or come and help!



1st February

For crafters, sewers, knitters, etc. Enjoy your chosen activity plus tea, cake, natter as above! Just come along!

Contact Annie for more info 07968157136

EMPTINESS

• "If you could put your body under a giant electron microscope you would see total space. That space is Consciousness. This is true not only of your body, but the chair, the building, the tree, the flower the mountain -- everything is space. Everything is Consciousness."

Robert Adams

- "The reason we all experience the same world is not that there is a world made of matter appearing outside Consciousness; it is because our minds share Consciousness, so we feel we share the same world, but the world we share is made of Consciousness, not matter, and we are that very Consciousness."

 Rupert Spira
- "There is essentially nothing in the Universe but Consciousness. Everything is spirit in essence, though hidden in manifestation." *Paramahansa Yogananda*
- "Physicists have discovered that the apparent solidity of matter is an illusion created by our senses. The essence of all things is emptiness." *Eckhart Tolle*
- "Emptiness means empty of separate self. It is full of everything, full of life. The word emptiness should not scare us. It is a wonderful word. To be empty does not mean non-existent. Emptiness is the ground of everything. Thanks to emptiness, everything is possible."

Thich Nhat Hanh

- "The physical is only a small aspect of existence. In this cosmos, not even 1% is physical, the rest is non-physical. What you see as cosmos is a living mind intelligent space." Sadhguru
- "There is no matter as such mind is the matrix of all matter." $Max\ Planck$
- "Concerning matter, we have been all wrong. What we have called matter is energy, whose vibration has been so lowered as to be perceptible to the senses. Matter is spirit reduced to the point of visibility. There is no matter."

Albert Einstein

YOUR "LOCAL" CONTACTS

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Louise Vine 07974 528540 Vice Chair

James Green

Darren Clinch 07790 211242 Rick Dormor 07970 217267 Mandy Graham 01297 20369

vacancy

vacancy

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Tim Stevens

vacancy

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Holiday lets versus local homes, the winners



and losers A recent CPRE report examined the impact of second homes and short-term tourism lets on popular

holiday areas, including Devon. The figures are sobering. They show that since 2016 the number of short-term listings in Devon has increased by a whopping 800%. This coincided with a 3% fall in the number of rental homes available between 2016 and 2019. (The figures for the two 'Covid Years' are not yet available so we cannot know for sure that property owners are removing homes from the rental market to benefit from the online holiday-let boom, but we strongly suspect that's the case).

At the risk of stating the obvious, tourism is vital to Devon's economy. Since the coming of the railways all those years ago, businesses across the county have flourished providing services to the visitors who flocked to the South West to enjoy the beautiful coast and countryside. The growth of the package holiday industry and budget airlines may have badly dented domestic tourism, but the travel restrictions imposed as a result of Covid-19 have boosted holidays at home once again.

The massive downside of this tourism boom is the growing shortage of properties for Devon residents to live in year-round, creating virtual ghost towns during the winter, and not just in South Devon's traditional hotspots. In scenic villages in North Devon and Torridge, in the small towns and villages of Dartmoor and Exmoor and right across to East Devon, you'll also find empty home after empty home with a key safe by the front door, waiting for the influx of holidaymakers in the spring.

Online booking sites like Airbnb and Vrbo have made it easier than ever for visitors to book a staycation. They've also created a lucrative opportunity for investors and second homeowners to make more money from their properties by turning them into short-term holiday lets.

We know that the South West economy benefits from the money holidaymakers spend but surely there has to be a limit to the seemingly endless supply of holiday accommodation on offer, especially when it affects the lives of local people and harms the viability of their communities. Buying their own home has long been beyond the reach of many young people and key workers because of high house prices compared to the average local wage. Is it now the case that they'll no longer be able to find a rental home either?

Devon CPRE's evidence-based report in 2018 concluded that more than 60% of new homes being built in the county were not being sold to local buyers. The housing needs of Devon residents are being pushed down the queue while the affluent turn a nice profit. It's completely unsustainable.

Local people are often led to believe that new developments will provide affordable homes for local people, but we know only too well that there's a massive gap between the number of affordable homes developers initially promise and what they deliver. People are tired of being duped for profit. Surely they too deserve to gain something from new growth and development?

There's no simple solution to this undeniably grim state of affairs but the key is surely Planning with a capital 'P'. The current system that allows endless greenfield housing developments without meeting local needs for homes - or supporting infrastructure and services like extra school places or GP surgeries - certainly has scope for improvement!

We cannot go back in time, but to make the right decisions for the current situation we need proper and accurate data - and policies that offer sustainable solutions.

www.devoncpre.org.uk

Advertisement(s) [page 24]





lending with Heart and Mind

East Devon District Council fund a not-for-profit loan scheme for homeowners and landlords.

We understand the expense of maintaining your home and we work with you to take the stress out of funding repairs, improvements or adaptations.

We see you as an individual, not a credit score. Our knowledgeable team of advisers will guide you through the process of applying for a home improvement loan.

For a no-obligation assessment or more information visit www.lendology.org.uk or call 01823 461099 Heatherton Park Studios, Bradford on Tone, Taunton, TA4 1EU

*subject to eligibility



Advertisement(s) [page 25]



Specialist Chocolate Shop

Handmade & Finished Chocolates, Marzipans, Turkish Delight, Mints, Bars, Novelties, Extensive Dietary Range, Locally Handmade Fudge, Loose Weigh-out Sweets

Perfect Presents

Baskets, scarves, candlesticks, candles, socks, bags, storage tins, soaps, reed diffusers, jewellery, vases, glass ornaments, A Selection of Devon Teas, Jams, Marmalades & Curds

Fore Street, Beer, EX12 3JB Tel 01297 625999

Chocolates by Post – Telephone orders taken Free Local Delivery Service





Renovate your wrought iron gates, railings, tables, etc!

We provide a variety of services ranging from Powder Coating to Hot Zinc Spray and Shot Blasting. We keep a range of about 100 colours in stock. Most are exterior polyesters, which provide excellent durability and colour retention on gates, railings and garden furniture.

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Specialist Metal Finishers

email: coatingsupplies@aol.com www.industrialcoatingsupplies.co.uk Opening Times: Monday - Thursday 8am - 5pm Friday 7am - 1pm

Units 1+2 Simmons Place, Kingsmill Industrial Estate, Cullompton EX15 1BH

Advertisement(s) [page 26]



Enabling and Home Support

Our Enabling and Home Support Service offers:

- Cleaning and housework
- Companionship
- Support with attending appointments
- Shopping
- · Household management
- Meal planning and preparation

For more information please call

0333 241 2340

email info@ageukdevon.co.uk or visit www.ageukdevon.co.uk



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Still a family run business, serving the local community of East Devon for over 50 years



Tel. 01297 22538 (24 Hour Service)

Office and Chapel of Rest at
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Seaton, EX12 2NL
www.hansfords-funeral.co.uk



Advertisement(s) [page 27]

Beer Pharmacy

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COLLECTION & HOME DELIVERY

FREE Express Prescription Collection & Delivery Service FREE Weekly Medicine Trav All Types of Prescriptions Dispensed



Your local independent Pharmacy

Beer Pharmacy Fore Street Beer **EX123JJ**

TEL: 01297 21823



[Charity Advertisement]



For cancer support and information plus advice on claiming benefits **2** 01392 406151

⋈ support@forcecancercharity.co.uk

[Charity Advertisement]

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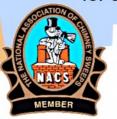


Advertisement(s) [page 28]

East Devon Chimney Sweeps Ltd.

Please call Chris on **01395 642023**

for a professional, clean sweep.



edcsweeps@gmail.com

■ Fully insured ■ NACS certificates issued

Beer Village Stores

Fore Street, Beer

Groceries & Household Goods - Frozen Goods Cold Drinks & Snacks - Fresh Bread Beer, Wine & Spirits - Sweets & Confectionery Dry Cleaning & Laundry Agent - DIY



THE DOLPHIN HOTEL

FORE STREET, BEER TELEPHONE: (01297)20068

22 En Suite Rooms
Full À La Carte Menu
Fresh Seafoods a Speciality
Private Parking
Functions & Conferences
Wedding Receptions
Fishing Parties Catered for—Own Trawler
OPEN ALL YEAR

THE ANCHOR INN AT BEER

Welcome to The Anchor!

Fully licensed restaurant and bars Ensuite bedrooms with sea views Food served all day everyday

Cliff top beer garden with panoramic views of the bay Tel: 01297 20386 for reservations Dog friendly



- * Tree Surgery
- * Grass Cutting
- * Hedge Cutting

Local Family Business Professional - Polite - Friendly

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Advertisement(s) [page 29]

hmad)architect/



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Try: OUR LOCAL CHEESES, EXOTIC SUNDRIED TOMATOES & OLIVES

Also available: FRESH BREAD, HOME-MADE TREACLE TARTS & APPLE PIES, Etc

Beer Post Office

is now part of

Rock Villa Off-Licence

and general store Fore Street, Beer 07752 113854

Service available seven days a week during the store's opening hours -

Mon_Sat 10am-1pm, 2pm-6pm Sunday: 12 - 4pm Advertisement(s) [page 30]

THE BEST SELECTION

Of South West Arts and Crafts -Anywhere

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Registered Member of The British Association of Foot Health Professionals



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Chimney, woodburner and range cooker sweeping.

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Evening and weekend appointments available.



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Advertisement(s) [page 31]





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Beer Parish News

Did you make any "New Year Resolutions"? Have you kept them?

PROMISES By Jackie Kay

Remember, the time of year when the future appears like a blank sheet of paper a clean calendar, a new chance. On thick white snow you vow fresh footprints then watch them go with the wind's hearty gust. Fill your glass. Here's tae us. Promises made to be broken, made to last.



A poem from Axminster & Lyme Cancer Support's current Newsletter. Seems rather apt, doesn't it?

Copy for March to be with the Editor by Monday 21st February, at very latest please.

henryjaggers@btinternet.com 01297 20858 Green Bank, 9 Clinton Rise.

KEEP YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS COMING!

Reading this in the black & white printed edition?

Visit www.beerparishcouncil.org.uk and click on

"Latest news" then on "Parish News February" to find this

BEER PARISH NEWS in full colour!

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